

ON A SMALL COLLECTION OF LAND AND FRESH-WATER SHELLS
FROM OMAN, ARABIA.

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A FEW species of terrestrial and fluviatile shells from Oman recently presented to the British Museum by Dr. A. S. G. Jayakar, of Muscat, are of particular interest, being the first received by the Museum from that locality, and no collection having hitherto been recorded from that part of Arabia. Of the eight species sent by Dr. Jayakar, three appear to be undescribed. They were collected in the interior of Oman, from Jebel Akhdar and places at the foot of it, and are as follows :—

1. *HELIX DERBENTINA*, Andrzejowski.

A single specimen only, apparently belonging to this species.

2. *BULIMINUS OMANENSIS*, n.sp. Fig. 1.

Testa elongata, cylindraceo-ovata, rimata, alba, lineis incrementi obliquis tenuibus striisque spiralibus tenuissimis sculpta; spira convexa conoidea, ad apicem obtusa; anfractus 7 convexiusculi, ultimus antice lente ascendens; apertura inverse auriformis, cum perist. longitudinis totius $\frac{1}{2}$ fere æquans; peristoma undique late dilatatum et reflexum, marginibus callo tenui junctis. Longit. 20–24, diam. 10–10·5 mm.; apertura intus 7·5–8 longa, 5 lata.

Hab.—Green Mountain, Oman.

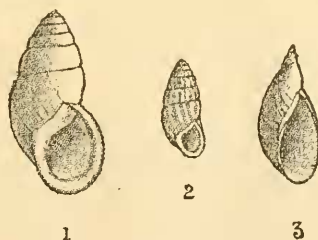


Fig. 1. *Buliminus Omanensis*.
 „ 2. „ *Jousseauinei*.
 „ 3. *Limnæa Arabia*.

The peristome of this species is very like that of the well-known *B. labiosus*, Müller. That species, however, has a much more pointed spire and is furnished with a prominent tooth or fold on the columella, a feature entirely absent in *B. Omanensis*. *B. labiosus*, Olivier, is rather like the present species as regards form: it is, however, much larger, the aperture is more perpendicular and longer, and the columella is more plicate.

3. *BULIMINUS JOUSSEAUMEI*, n.sp. Fig. 2.

Testa pupiformis, rimata, pallide cornea, lineis obliquis, irregularibus albis picta, lineis incrementi tenuissimis striisque spiralibus obsoletis sculpta; spira convexe conoidea, ad apicem obtusa; anfractus 7, convexiusculi, lente crescentes, superne ad suturam linea cornea submarginati, ultimus antice ascendens; apertura ovata, supra acuminata et sinuata, longit. totius $\frac{1}{3}$ paulo superans; peristoma album, incrassatum, expansum et reflexum, marginibus callo crasso junctis. Longit. 12, diam. 5 mm. Apertura cum perist. 4.5 longa, 3.5 lata.

Hab.—Oman.

This species is well characterized by the strong white continuous lip, the small sinus at the upper end of the aperture, and the style of colouration. The opaque white stripes do not extend downwards beyond the middle of the body-whorl, excepting as the lip is approached. *B. Sogdianus*, Martens, from Turkestan, is allied to this species, but differs in its form and in the peristome. I have associated with this species the name of Dr. F. Jousseume, who has written important papers on the fauna of Arabia and adjacent localities.¹

4. *BULIMINUS INSULARIS*, Ehrenberg.

Hab.—Oman.

Common in Arabia, India, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Assab, Massoua, etc.

5. *MELANIA TUBERCULATA*, Müller.

Two varieties of this species were collected by Dr. Jayakar, one of a pale greenish tint with or without red spots, and the other of a dark purplish black. Some specimens are paler than others, and in these the red spotting is noticeable, and a dark basal zone is seen upon the lower part of the body-whorl.

6. *MELANIA ELEGANS*, Benson.

Hab.—Oman.

On comparing the specimens from this locality with Benson's type of this species, presented to the Museum by the late Mr. R. MacAndrew, I can discover no differences to separate them.

7. *LIMNÆA ARABICA*, n.sp. Fig. 3.

Testa angusta, superne acuminata, cornea, ad apicem rufescens, et infra suturam zona pallida angusta marginata; spira acuta; anfractus 4 celeriter accrescentes, primus minimus convexus, ceteri minus convexi, sutura obliqua sejuncti, striis incrementi sculpti, ultimus peroblique descendens; apertura inverse auriformis, elongata, sub-rufescens; columella obliqua, in medio contorta et incrassata, callo tenni labro juncta. Longit. 17.5 mm., diam. 8. Apertura 10.5 longa, 5 lata.

Hab.—Oman.

This species is very like certain forms of *Succinea*, having a narrow and acuminate spire and a very long body-whorl. In general appearance it recalls a small form of the Indian *L. rufescens*, Gray.

¹ Bull. Soc. Mal. France, vols. vi. and vii. (1889, 1890).